

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A device for producing container blanks (2) from a material web (3),
comprising
a plurality of tools (5) supported by a rotary tool holder (4), which on rotation is arranged
to move each tool (5) along
a working path (WP) along which each tool (5) is engageable with the material web (3)
for joining of opposite wall portions of the material web (3) along connecting portions (11), and
a return path (RP) along which each tool (5) is disengageable from the material web (3),
each tool (5) being arranged to be moved together with the material web (3) when the tool
(5) is moved along said working path (WP), and
said tool holder (4) acting as a deflecting means for the material web (3) when this moves
together with the respective tools (5) along said working path (WP).

2. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 1, in which each tool (5) is operable between a
closed position and an open position, the tool (5) being movable to said closed position to
provide said engagement with the material web (3).

3. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 2, in which each tool (5) comprises a base
element (6) which is fixedly mounted on the tool holder (4) and an engaging element (7) which
is pivotable relative to the base element (6).

4. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 3, in which at least one of the base element (6) and the engaging element (7) of each tool (5) supports a rib (12), which is arranged to engage the material web (3) in the closed position of the tool (5).

5. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 4, in which said rib (12) of each tool (5) has an extent that corresponds to the extent of the connecting portion (11) of a container blank (2).

6. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 4 or 5, in which said rib (12) is supported by an arrangement involving springs (38), which when moving the tool (5) to said closed position are arranged for a given compression.

7. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, in which each tool (5) is arranged to provide said joining by heat sealing.

8. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, further comprising a control means (18) which is arranged to engage said tool (5) with, and disengage the same from, the material web (3).

9. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 8, in which the control means (18) comprises a link mechanism (20) for each of the tools (5) and a stationary cam structure (19), each tool (5) being connected to the cam structure (19) by said link mechanism (20) and the cam structure (16)

being arranged, during rotation of the tool holder (4), to control each tool (5) to be closed and opened, respectively.

10. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 8, in which each link mechanism (20) comprises an articulated link arm (25) which is arranged in an over-centred position.

11. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 9 or 10 when referring back to claim 6, in which each link mechanism (20) comprises a roll (23) which is held in a cam groove (24) of the cam structure (19), a sensor being arranged in the cam groove (24) for sensing the force by which the roll (23) abuts against a bearing surface of the cam groove (24).

12. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, in which the tool holder (4) is rotatably mounted on one side.

13. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, further comprising a punching station (10), which is arranged downstream of the tool holder (4) and arranged to punch container blanks (5) along said connecting portions (11).

14. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 13, in which said punching station (10) is arranged for such punching that a succession of container blanks (2) are connected to each other to form a continuous web (17) of container blanks (2).

15. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, in which the tool holder (4) in operation is arranged for continuous rotation.

16. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, further comprising a registering mechanism (13) positioned upstream of the tool holder (4) and adapted to sense the tension in the material web (3) and to adjust said tension according to a predetermined value.

17. (Original) A method for producing container blanks (2) from a material web (3) by joining opposite wall portions of the material web (3) along connecting portions (11), comprising
deflecting said material web (3) over a tool holder (4),
rotating the tool holder (4) to move tools (5) supported by the same along a working path (WP), and
by continued rotation of the tool holder (4), moving the tools (5) along a return path (RP) to the beginning of said working path (WP),
each tool, for providing said joining, being engaged with the material web (5) and moved together with said material web (3) during the movement of the tool (5) along said working path (WP).

18. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the material web (3) is folded to a web folded longitudinally in the form of a W.

19. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 17 or 18, wherein each tool (5) is engaged with the material web (3) by pivoting an engaging element (7) downwards to a base element (6) for clamping the material web (3) therebetween.

20. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 17-19~~ claim 17, in which said tool holder (4) is rotated continuously to provide continuous production of container blanks (2).

21. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 17-19~~ claim 17, in which the tool holder (4) is rotated in an indexing motion.